

SEAMEN DAZED WHEN FIGHT CAME

Graphic Details by an
Eye-Witness of
Battle.

Some fragments of the detailed story of the naval battle of Port Arthur as seen by a New York Herald correspondent, who happened to be quarantined on a British steamer at Port Arthur when the Japanese made their night attack, were given in yesterday's Advertiser. The full account follows:

CHEFOO, Tuesday, 7:30 p. m. (eastern time) Feb. 9.—I was lying on Monday night in the quarantined Indo-China steamer Columbia, between the entrance to Port Arthur and the Russian fleet and close to the latter. One of the Russian warships was using searchlights. In a leisurely fashion only three torpedo boats were patrolling the outskirts of the fleet. All of the other torpedo boats were inside the basin. Everything was tranquil and a Russian official told us he expected the Japanese fleet in three or four days. The lighthouse was already lit and guiding lights were burning. About 8 o'clock the Russian sailors chanted their evening prayers. The hymn rolled out impressively along the water.

The weather was perfect. It was not cold and the sky was clear. There was a slight southerly breeze and a hazy horizon. Deep silence settled down.

EXPLOSIONS UNDER WATER.

I was going to bed at 11:30 o'clock when I heard three distinct but muffled explosions, one after another. Apparently they came from under the water, for the Columbia vibrated violently. Instantly firing with the 12-pounders and 3-pounders began. Searchlights were placed but without much method. I watched the operations, thinking they were only maneuvers, till midnight, when the firing had almost ceased, entirely ceasing at 3 in the morning.

At about 1 o'clock two battleships, the Retvizan and the Cesarevitch, and one large cruiser passed us, coming toward the harbor entrance. The battleships soon lay across the narrows at the entrance, where both are now aground and helpless. They are very close together and are not blocking the entrance except for ships of heavy draught. The Retvizan had been torpedoed forward, the Cesarevitch aft.

The cruiser listed to port is aground outside of the entrance of the harbor. She also was torpedoed.

EXCITEMENT OF RUSSIANS.

At 2:40 some Russian naval officers came to the Columbia in a state of great excitement, saying the Viceroy had ordered us not to attempt to leave, their object apparently being to prevent us giving information to the Japanese concerning the extent of the damage.

Up to this time we thought the operations were only maneuvers or a scare, but now we began to suspect something serious, especially when at day we saw the strange, pathetic appearance of the two torpedoed battleships.

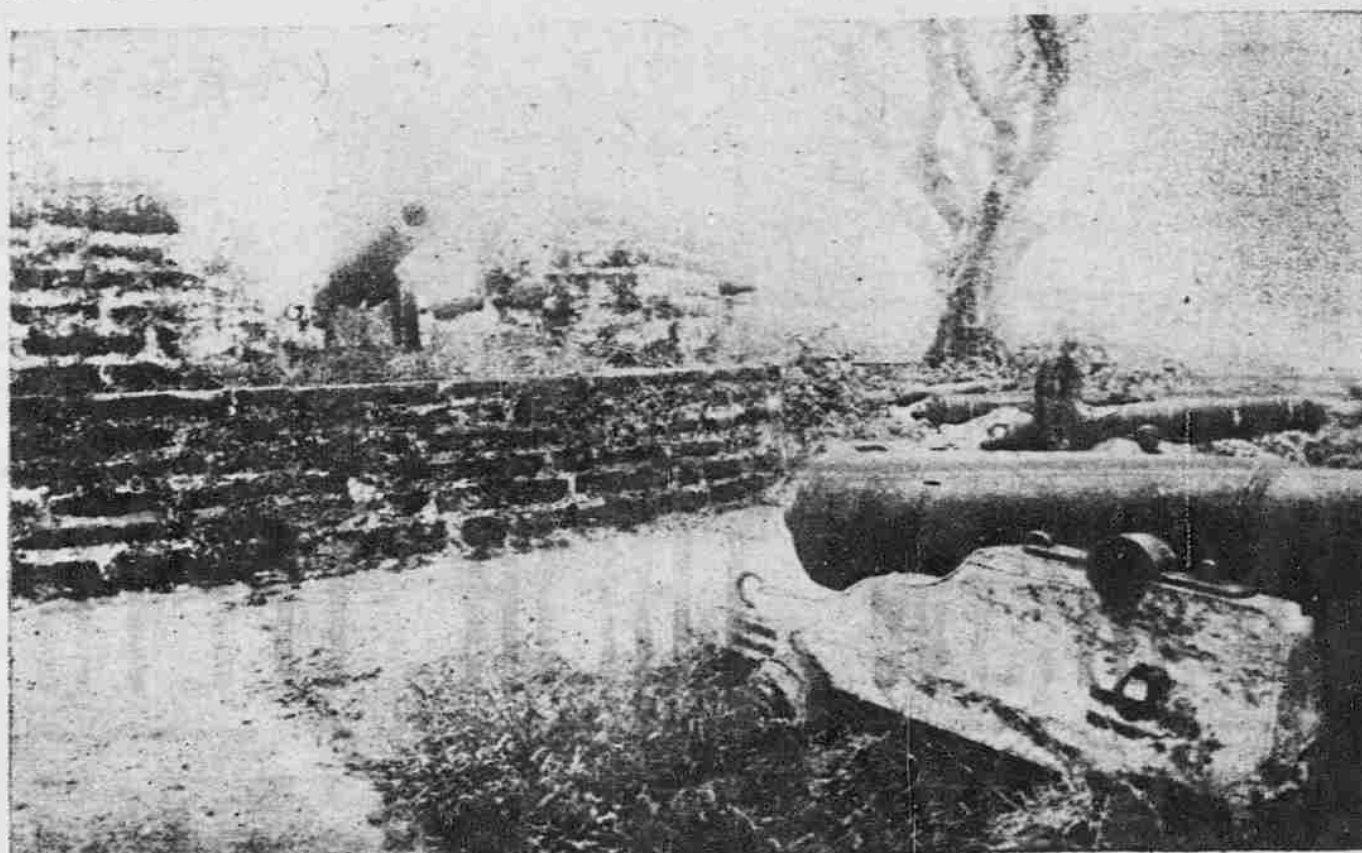
We suspected a collision, but soon learned that these battleships and cruisers were certainly torpedoed. It seems strange, for though flashlights were whirling wildly and the lighthouse light was now extinct, no firing took place after 3 o'clock. The moon was shining, but no enemy was visible.

VICTORS ESCAPE UNHARMED.

The sun arose very red, disclosing the presence on the horizon of three two-funnel cruisers, on whose masts we afterward distinguished the flag of the rising sun of Japan. They came boldly within long-distance range and both remained watching for two hours after daybreak.

A strange apathy seemed to possess the Russians. Crews of white-faced, gaping men crowded the forward decks of the damaged vessels.

I saw, through a glass, the cook of the Retvizan calmly throwing out slops and men in the other vessels carefully washing the anchor chain while weighing anchor. For a long time after the



PORT ARTHUR—ANCIENT CHINESE FORTRESS.

anchor was weighed no vessels showed a disposition to chase the Japanese or to fire a single shot.

Finally the Japanese left. This was at 8:20 o'clock. They were pursued by the Russian fleet, which proceeded toward Dalny.

At 9:15 o'clock the Russians returned to their anchorage, no firing apparently having occurred. Then again came silence, everything having passed off with less noise than an ordinary naval review.

SECOND BATTLE BEGINS.

The Russians had now outside the harbor five effective battleships, five effective cruisers, one volunteer cruiser, one gun vessel, one training ship and seventeen torpedo-boats and destroyers. The latter were grouped near the entrance of the harbor.

It was almost 11 o'clock this morning when a section of Japanese ships, including five battleships, appeared along the horizon. They were in fine order.

At 11:15, say, came a flash from a Japanese vessel. This landed a 12-inch shell near the torpedo-boats and disabled a battleship. The aim was splendid.



ON BOARD A JAPANESE TRANSPORT.

Owing to the confusion of quarantine officials or perhaps because the Russians thought the Japanese would dislike to fire near the British flag, the Columbia had been lying close to the Russian fleet and in the line of fire, so that the Japanese shells aimed at the battleships fell thickly around her. Several, bursting near her stern, strewn her deck with splinters and water.

CARRIES OFF HIS GUARDS.

Captain Anderson then got under way, although ordered by the Russians not to leave, and despite the protests of the Russian guards aboard, who were eventually conveyed to Chefoo. On one occasion, when shells were bursting around us, the captain called: "Boy, get me some cigarettes."

Officers Wright and Nicholson and Engineer Smith were coolness personified. The vessel was brought out of her excessively dangerous position by running near shore and then making full speed for Chefoo. The Russian guards were praying fervently and the Chinese crew was frightened, but worked well. We feared the Russian batteries

would sink us for disobeying orders or send a torpedo-boat in pursuit. The captain had repeatedly signaled for permission to proceed, but his signals were not answered.

The bombardment of the forts lasted till about 12, the Japanese shooting with good aim. Two shells burst on the summit of one fort and numbers on the face of cliffs and along the beach. All of them were heavy shells.

Owing to the length of range all shells burst on contact with water or land. Some threw out a yellow smoke, but generally it was a dense black smoke, temporarily concealing the ships. The rate of fire on both sides was slow and many Russian shells fell short. The Sevastopol was hit by a heavy shell near the base of her forward funnel. Another three-funnelled battleship was struck amidship on her armor plating. A third, also a battleship, was struck abaft her armored section, near the stern.

We could not ascertain the exact damage done. The fleets were about three miles apart. Apparently no ship on either side was disabled.

The Russian cruiser Novik fought pluckily, keeping by far the closest to the Japanese. All of the heavier fire

hole in her deck, caused by a splinter from a shell, and some marks on her afterdeck-house. The Columbia's captain is English, the mate Irish and the engineer Scotch.

Two large and two small British steamers engaged in coasting trade, also an American flour ship, the Pleiades, are blocked inside Port Arthur harbor by the position of the disabled battleships.

The Russians are endeavoring, by pumps and collision mats, to stop the holes in the battleships in order to be able to take them inside the harbor at high water.

When fifteen miles south of Port Arthur I heard heavy firing toward the north. This was at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon. It did not continue long. I saw no signs of the Japanese fleet on my way to Chefoo.

GUN CLUB TO HOLD BIG SHOOT

A clay bird shoot of the Honolulu Gun Club will take place at the club grounds in Manoa valley on Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22.

A class shoot with good prizes in which the members will be classed according to their previous performances will be the principal event of the day.

All members can compete in the first class for the prizes in that class. 3rd class members can compete in the 2nd, but neither 1st nor 2nd class members can compete in the third class, so it gives an incentive to the poorer shots to practice and win prizes.

There will also be pool shooting. Although the club has been in existence but six months it is now in excellent financial standing, is free from debt, and its tournaments have each been successful in every way. The club grounds are in Manoa valley and can be reached by the Rapid Transit.

The electric traps used on the shooting grounds have proven a complete success. At the closing of the open game season on the last day of February clay bird shooting promises to become one of the leading sports of the islands. The club has been promised some fine challenge cups which will no doubt create considerable interest in the matches. R. B. Booth, the ever popular and enthusiastic sportsman, is chairman of the committee on prizes, and the club members can rest assured that he will secure some that will please all. Refreshments will be served in the clubhouse and a jolly time is assured. The committee: "If you are not a member and shoot a shot gun bring it along and we will endeavor to find sport for all."

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OVERDUE SHIP ARRIVES

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NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The British ship Juteopolis from Iloilo has arrived.

The British four-masted ship Juteopolis, laden with 4,392 tons of Philippine sugar, called at Honolulu on Sept. 5, 1903, to replenish her supply of provisions. She was then one hundred and twenty-eight days from Iloilo. She left Iloilo on April 30th of last year and her arrival now makes the trip one of about 300 days.

RUSSIA PROTESTS.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 18.—Russia has made a protest against the British expedition to Thibet, which under the command of Colonel Younghusband, is advancing into the latter country.

MOURNING FOR HANNA.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, February 18.—The remains of the late Senator Mark Hanna are lying in state here. Public mourning is very general and the funeral tomorrow will be an immense one.

QUEEN AGAIN TURNED DOWN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 18.—Senator Tillman of South Carolina moved today to reconsider the action of two days ago defeating the bill to make an award for ex-Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii. No action was taken on the senator's motion.

ALBANIANS ROUTED.

SALONICA, February 18.—The Albanians besieging this place have been utterly routed after a severe battle in which they lost 800 killed and wounded. There were twenty thousand Albanians, in an unorganized mob, and 2,500 Turks, aided by reinforcements. The Turkish loss was very heavy.



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